NOVA SCOTIA

LEGAL AID COMMISSION

Twenty-Fifth Annual Report

2001/2002

NOVA SCOTIA

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Twenty-Fifth Annual Report

2001/2002

103-02722/

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MANDATE

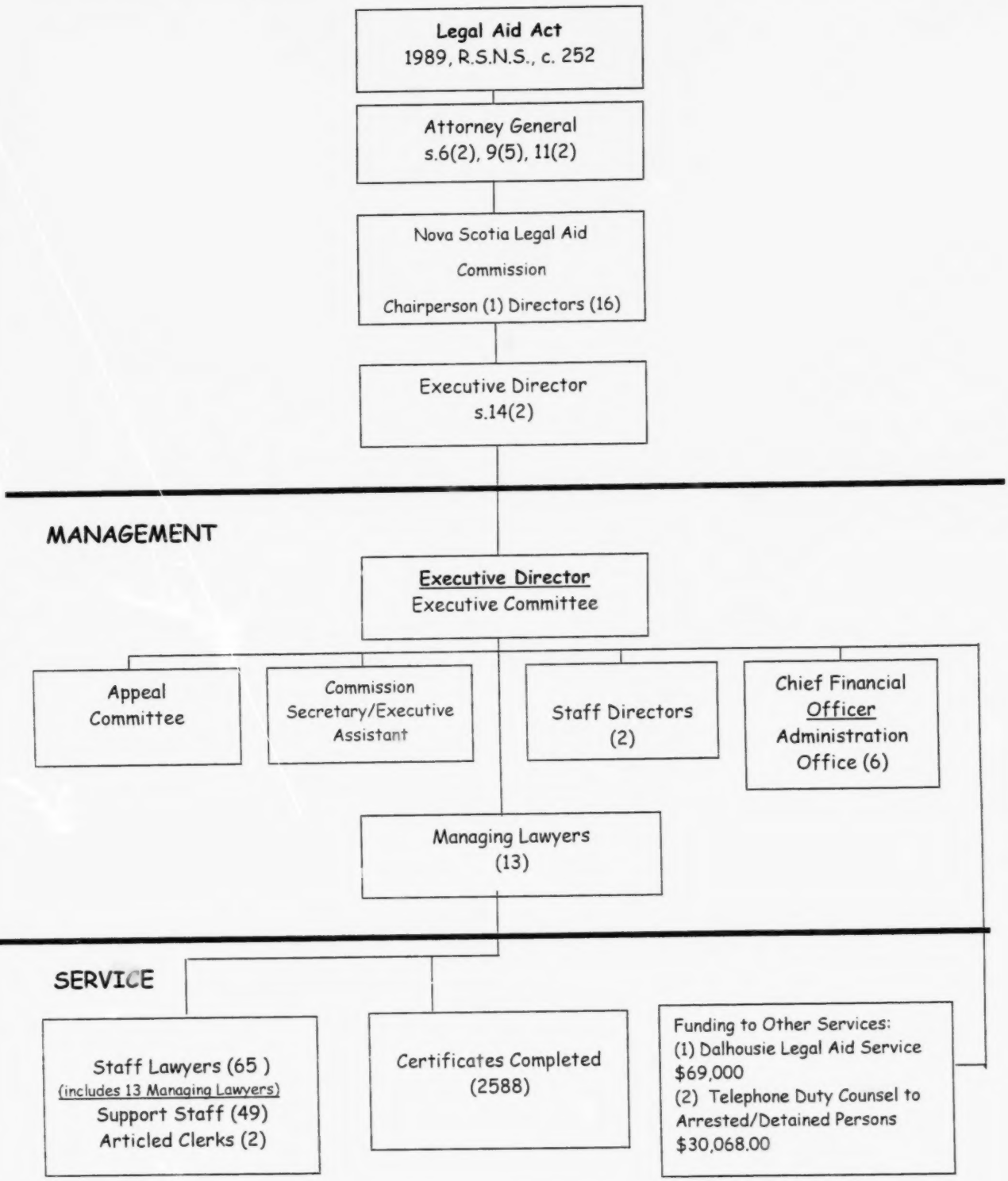
The mandate of the Nova Scotia Legal Commission, in so far as Government funding permits, is:

(a) To deliver quality legal representation to qualified applicants with priority for matters involving the liberty and civil rights of individual clients and for matters involving the integrity and protection of an individual's family.

(b) Such other legal services as Government may contract with the Commission to provide to individuals or groups.

2001/2002 NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION STRUCTURE

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY



NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

CONTACTS

T. GERARD LUKEMAN, Q.C.
Executive Director
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 1T2
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(902) 863-3350 Antigonish
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102-523 Prince Street
Truro, NS B2N 1E8
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Chief Financial Officer
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(902) 420-6589
(902) 420-3471 Facsimile

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS OF MARCH 31, 2002

Name	Location	Term Expires	Representing
Angus E. Schurman	Halifax	January 13, 2003	Bar Society
A. William Cox, Q.C.	Halifax	April 30, 2003	Justice
Betty L. Josey	Dartmouth	April 30, 2003	Justice
J. Michael Kuna	Sydney	April 30, 2003	Justice
Vincent B. MacDonald	Halifax	April 30, 2003	Justice
Linda Pellerine(deceased May 2002)	Trenton	-	Justice
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.	New Glasgow	July 26, 2003	Bar Society
M. Joseph Rizzetto	Sydney	October 5, 2004	Bar Society
Clarence Guest	Halifax	-	Public Service
Shulamith Medjuck	Halifax	-	Public Service
Vacant			Justice
Vacant			Justice
Vacant			Justice
Vacant			Bar Society
Vacant			Bar Society
Vacant			Bar Society
Vacant			Bar Society

STANDING COMMITTEES AS OF MARCH 31, 2002

APPEAL

Panel A
Angus E. Schurman, Chair
Vincent B MacDonald
M. Joseph Rizzetto

Panel B
A. William Cox, Q.C.
Betty L. Josey
J. Michael Kuna

BUDGET

Shulamith Medjuck
Clarence Guest
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.
Angus Schurman
A. William Cox, Q.C.

T. Gerard Lukeman, Q.C. (Executive Director)
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)
Resource - David J. Slaunwhite
(Chief Financial Officer)

EXECUTIVE

T. Gerard Lukeman, Q.C.(Ex. Director)
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.

Resource - David J. Slaunwhite
(Chief Financial Officer)
Resource - Lisa Stokkeskog
(Commission Secretary)

PLANNING & POLICY

M. Joseph Rizzetto
J. Michael Kuna

Linda Pellerine (deceased May 2002)
Resource - Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Angus E. Schurman
Resource - Walter I. Yeadon (Director)

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Amherst
P.O. Box 262, 55 Church Street
Amherst, NS B4H 3Z2
(902) 667-7544 /(902) 667-0030 Fax

Annapolis Royal
P.O. Box 188, 253 St. George Street
Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0
(902) 532-2311/(902) 532-7488 Fax

Antigonish
273 Main Street
Antigonish, NS B2G 2C3
(902) 863-3350 /(902) 863-7598 Fax

Bridgewater
724 King Street
Bridgewater, NS B4V 1B6
(902) 543-4658 /(902) 543-3044 Fax

Dartmouth
300-99 Wyse Road
Dartmouth, NS B3A 4S5
(902) 420-8815 Family/Civil
(902) 420-8818 Criminal
(902) 420-6562 Fax

Halifax-South
400-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6583 / (902) 420-1260 Fax

Halifax-North
2830 Agricola Street
Halifax, NS B3K 4E4
(902) 420-3450
902) 420-2873 Fax

Legal Aid Litigation Office
42 West Street
Antigonish, NS B2G 2H5
(902) 863-7171 / 863-7172 Fax

Kentville
325 Main Street, Salon B
Kentville, NS B4N 1K5
(902) 679-6110 /(902) 679-6177 Fax

New Glasgow
116 George Street
New Glasgow, NS B2H 2K6
(902) 755-7020 /(902) 752-8733 Fax

Sydney
P.O. Box 1373, 201-336 Kings Road
Sydney, NS B1P 6K3
(902) 563-2295 /(902) 539-0489 Fax

Truro
102-523 Prince Street
Truro, NS B2N 1E8
(902) 893-5920 /(902) 893-6112 Fax

Windsor
P.O. Box 760, 138 Gerrish Street
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
(902) 798-8397 /(902) 798-8345 Fax

Yarmouth
P.O. Box 163, 101 Water Street
Yarmouth, NS B5A 4B2
(902) 742-7827 /(902) 742-0676

Sub-Offices
Liverpool - 354-3215 contact BW
Port Hawkesbury - 188-817-0116

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401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6573/(902) 420-3471 Fax

Duty Counsel Office
401-A - 5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6579)/(902) 420-3471 Fax

NSLA STAFF COMPLEMENT AS OF MARCH 31, 2002

OFFICE	Exec. Dir.	Staff Dir.	Lawyers	Admin. Support	Legal Assistants	Chief Financial Officer	Prison Liaison	Community & Youth Court Support Workers	Library	MIS	Article Clerks	Total
Administration	1	1		5		1			1	1		10
Amherst			2		2.6		1					5.6
Annapolis Royal			2		1.6						1	4.6
Antigonish			4		3							7
Bridgewater			4		3							7
Dartmouth			9		6							15
Hal - South			8		4						1	13
Hal - North			8		6			2				16
Kentville			4		3							7
New Glasgow			4		3							7
Sydney			10		6			1				17
Truro		1	2		2.6							5.6
Windsor			2		1.6							3.6
Yarmouth			3		2.6							5.6
Litigation			2									2
Duty Counsel			1									1
TOTALS	**1**	**2**	**65**	**5**	**45**	**1**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**127**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am pleased to present as part of our Twenty-Fifth Annual Report, my fifth report as Executive Director.

Annual Staff Meeting

In September 2000, the Annual Staff Lawyer Meeting was cancelled as a cost-saving measure. This year, in September 2001, the meeting for the staff lawyers was re-instituted.

Much positive feedback was received from the staff lawyers as to the benefits of this Annual Meeting. Not only is the significant educational component well received, but the staff lawyers describe it as a wonderful morale booster. For myself and the Executive Committee, this Annual Meeting provides us with an excellent opportunity to meet with staff so that we may be more aware of the matters that are of concern to them in their day-to-day legal aid practices.

Personal Computer Network

During the year 2001/2002, we successfully completed the roll out of a modern personal computer system in every Legal Aid Office. Each staff lawyer and support staff has available to them a personal computer networked to other computers/printers in their office. This makes available to our staff word processing software, e-mail, internet research, on-line legal research (QuickLaw™), and specialized software (ChildView™) to assist in the practice of family law.

During the year, the Commission also purchased software that enables staff to access the Case Management System (CMS) database directly from their personal computers. Since our CMS continues to reside on our older UNIX computer system, the ability to access the CMS from the personal computer system enables staff to access case file information without the necessity of having the older dumb terminal system on their desks along with the personal computer.

Youth Court Support Worker

This pilot project which began in January 2001 received special funding from the Federal Department of Justice so that the project was able to continue throughout the year 2001/2002. This project enabled us to provide services to young persons aged 12 to 15 appearing in Youth Court both in Sydney and the Halifax Regional Municipality.

For the year 2001/2002, services were provided to 348 youths by the Youth Court Support Worker in the Halifax Regional Municipality and 279 youths were provided with services by the Worker in the Sydney Office.

Staff Lawyer Salary Scale

During this fiscal year, all staff lawyers were placed on a new pay scale. This pay scale is equivalent to the pay scale as provided to the Crown Attorneys employed in the Public Prosecution Service.

The Commission notes that financial support was provided by the Government of the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Justice to enable the new pay scale to be adopted. This essential financial support enabled the Commission to maintain parity between the staff lawyers employed by the Commission and the Crown Attorneys employed by the Public Prosecution Service.

I also want to note that the Commission gave the same raise to our support staff this year as was received by the employees in Government offices.

The support shown to the staff lawyer program and support staff at the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission is appreciated. I see this support as a recognition by the Government of the vital role our staff provides in ensuring the fairness of the system of justice operating in Nova Scotia.

Legal Aid Tariff

During the past year, the Commission has seen increasing pressure to increase the hourly tariff paid to the private bar when they accept Legal Aid Certificates. The current rate remains at $50.00 per hour. More and more frequently we are hearing reports of members of the private bar refusing to accept Legal Aid Certificates due

to dissatisfaction with the tariff rate. I believe the Province will need to receive a significant funding increase from the Federal Government before funding is available for necessary changes to the tariff rates. In the last six years, the funding to the Legal Aid Commission in Nova Scotia from the Province has increased by $2.0 million. Six years ago in 1996/1997, the federal contribution under the Criminal/Young Offender funding agreement was $3.0 million and it is still $3.0 million in the fiscal year 2001/2002. We can expect our tariff to remain an ongoing concern for the Commission.

Secure Treatment Facility

This Facility is to provide treatment services, to young people under 16 years of age, in a custodial setting pursuant to the ***Children and Family Services Act***. Construction has begun with completion expected in August 2002.

We expect this Facility to cause approximately 250 to 300 new court hearings in the Truro Family Court per year. This level of demand for representation will require the addition of one staff lawyer with necessary support staff to our Truro Office. We will require the Province's Department of Community Services (as the operator of the Facility upon its completion) to provide the necessary financial support to enable the Commission to offer the required legal services to the youths held in the Facility.

Snapshot of Legal Aid Services Provided

The Commission had 25,946 requests for Legal Aid last year. Of these, 2,518 requests were rejected as being ineligible for Legal Aid. At the year end, 581 individuals were in the process of having their eligibility determined and so are recorded as "Pending Decision". In the remaining 22,847 requests, the Commission provided these individuals with legal services.

These 22,847 services were provided in the following areas of law:

- we provided 13,469 services to adult individuals facing criminal charges;
- we provided 3,049 services to young persons (aged 12 to 17 inclusive) facing criminal charges;
- we provided individuals facing charges under Provincial Statutes with 57 services. We rarely provide services for provincial offences except when incarceration is a possibility or the particular circumstances of the

individual necessitate such representation;

- we provided 5,888 services to individuals facing family law problems with a priority being placed on child protection matters and custody disputes; and,
- we provided 384 services to individuals with a variety of civil legal issues.

For more details, I would refer you to the information charts provided later in this Annual Report.

Justice Glen G. McDougall

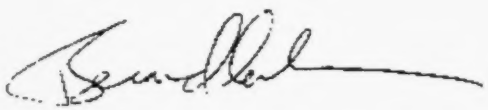
During this year we noted the appointment of our Commission Chairman, Glen G. McDougall, Q.C. to the bench of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court. We offer our sincere best wishes to Justice McDougall as he takes on his new responsibilities. While we are pleased to see a person of Justice McDougall's integrity and good sense appointed to the bench, the Supreme Court's gain is our loss.

The concern and advocacy shown by Glen on behalf of our staff Legal Aid program and our clients was of the highest order.

I extend to Glen my thanks for all the support he has given me in my role as Executive Director.

Thank You

In closing, I would like to thank all the staff at Legal Aid for all their efforts on behalf of the clients we serve. It is my good fortune to be associated with people who constantly show their dedication to the ideal of equal access to justice by providing quality legal services day in and day out.



T. Gerard Lukeman,Q.C.
Executive Director

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY TABLE

Legal Aid may be granted to a person on Social Assistance or in an equivalent financial position where there is merit in providing legal assistance in certain areas of family/civil and criminal law.

A person is in a position equivalent to that of someone on Social Assistance when the gross monthly income of the person and his/her spouse, including common-law spouse, is less than the amount set out below. (Child Tax Credit is not counted in income) and the person's monthly expenses for shelter, food, miscellaneous, transportation and the cost of the legal service requested is greater than the amount set out below. (Maximum allowance for transportation is $18.00)

HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
One Adult	$1067.00	Two Adults	$1424.00
and 1 Child	$1416.00	and 1 Child	$1708.00
and 2 Children	$1700.00	and 2 Children	$1932.00
and 3 Children	$1924.00	and 3 Children	$2156.00
and 4 Children	$2148.00	and 4 Children	$2380.00
and 5 Children	$2372.00	and 5 Children	$2604.00
and 6 Children	$2596.00	and 6 Children	$2828.00
and 7 Children	$2820.00	and 7 Children	$3052.00

Applications Received by Method of Service

From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002 with Comparative

Disposition	2001/2002	2000/2001	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	11,779	12,279	(500)	-4.1%
Private Lawyers	2,980	2,871	109	3.8%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	n/a [1]	336	(336)	-100.0%
Full Service	**14,759**	**15,486**	**(727)**	**-4.7%**
Summary Service				
Reciprocal - Outgoing	109	97	12	12.4%
Staff Duty Counsel	280	308	(28)	-9.1%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,487	1,469	1,018	69.3%
Telephone Duty Counsel[2]	4,124	3,051	1,073	35.2%
Advice	1,088	1,299	(211)	-16.2%
Summary Service	**8,088**	**6,224**	**1,864**	**29.9%**
Accepted Applications	**22,847**	**21,710**	**1,137**	**5.2%**
Rejected Applications	**2,518**	**2,024**	**494**	**24.4%**
Pending Decision	**581**	**353**	**228**	**64.6%**
Grand Total	**25,946**	**24,087**	**1,859**	**7.7%**

1 Effective 2001/2002, Certificates issued to Dalhousie Legal Aid Service are included under Private Lawyers.
2 Statistics included for Business Hours Telephone Duty Counsel are only for the period 08/01/01 to 03/31/02.

Applications Received by Area of Law

From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Full Service							
Staff Lawyers	6,124	1,854	38	3,573	190	11,779	45.4%
Private Lawyers	1,103	326	0	1,523	28	2,980	11.5%
Full Service	**7,227**	**2,180**	**38**	**5,096**	**218**	**14,759**	**56.9%**
Summary Service							
Reciprocal - Outgoing	0	0	0	109	0	109	0.4%
Staff Duty Counsel	225	41	4	8	2	280	1.1%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,304	183	0	0	0	2,487	9.6%
Telephone Duty Counsel	3,499	625	0	0	0	4,124	15.9%
Advice	214	20	15	675	164	1,088	4.2%
Summary Service	**6,242**	**869**	**19**	**792**	**166**	**8,088**	**31.2%**
Accepted Applications	**13,469**	**3,049**	**57**	**5,888**	**384**	**22,847**	**88.1%**
Rejected Applications	**1,189**	**43**	**60**	**1,120**	**106**	**2,518**	**9.7%**
Pending Decision	**144**	**13**	**3**	**415**	**6**	**581**	**2.2%**
Grand Total	**14,802**	**3,105**	**120**	**7,423**	**496**	**25,946**	**100.0%**
Percent	**57.0%**	**12.0%**	**0.5%**	**28.6%**	**1.9%**	**100.0%**	

Matters Completed

From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002 with Comparative

Disposition	2001/2002	2000/2001	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	10,804	11,973	(1,169)	-9.8%
Private Lawyers	2,588	2,334	254	10.9%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	n/a[3]	336	(336)	-100.0%
Full Service	**13,392**	**14,643**	**(1,251)**	**-8.5%**
Summary Service				
Reciprocal - Outgoing	109	97	12	12.4%
Staff Duty Counsel	293	313	(20)	-6.4%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,449	1,470	979	66.6%
Telephone Duty Counsel[4]	656		656	100.0%
Advice	1,185	1,353	(168)	-12.4%
Summary Service	**4,692**	**3,233**	**1,459**	**45.1%**
Accepted Applications	**18,084**	**17,876**	**207**	**1.2%**
Rejected Applications	**2,530**	**2,025**	**505**	**24.9%**
Grand Total	**20,614**	**19,901**	**713**	**3.6%**

3 Effective 2001/2002, Certificates issued to Dalhousie Legal Aid Service are included under Private Lawyers.
4 Statistics included for Business Hours Telephone Duty Counsel are only for the period 08/01/01 to 03/31/02.

Matters Completed by Area of Law

From April, 1 2001 to March 31, 2002

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Youth	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Full Service							
Staff Lawyers	5,420	1,767	25	3,304	288	10,804	52.4%
Private Lawyers	1,030	274	0	1,259	25	2,588	12.6%
Full Service	**6,450**	**2,041**	**25**	**4,563**	**313**	**13,392**	**65.0%**
Summary Service							
Reciprocal - Outgoing	0	0	0	109		109	0.5%
Staff Duty Counsel	237	42	4	8	2	293	1.4%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,271	178	0	0	0	2,449	11.9%
Telephone Duty Counsel	591	65	0	0	0	656	3.2%
Advice	237	20	13	751	164	1,185	5.7%
Summary Service	**3,336**	**305**	**17**	**868**	**166**	**4,692**	**22.8%**
Accepted Applications	**9,786**	**2,346**	**42**	**5,431**	**479**	**18,084**	**87.7%**
Rejected Applications	**1,194**	**48**	**62**	**1,118**	**108**	**2,530**	**12.3%**
Grand Total	**10,980**	**2,394**	**104**	**6,549**	**587**	**20,614**	**100.0%**
Percent	**53.3%**	**11.6%**	**0.5%**	**31.8%**	**2.8%**	**100.0%**	

Number of Full Service Matters Completed
From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Criminal Adult															
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	**4**	6
Attempted murder	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	**9**	
Robbery	5	1	1	1	17	0	33	3	1	6	4	1	2	**75**	43
Sexual assault	4	10	5	10	17	0	12	10	0	13	14	3	3	**101**	47
Sexual abuse	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	**5**	
Aggravated assault	1	1	4	7	32	3	6	10	4	10	60	1	9	**148**	
Assault	42	56	42	49	139	2	242	86	48	190	19	50	28	**993**	369
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	
Abduction	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**2**	
Arson	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	5	0	0	2	**12**	3
Weapons/Explosives	1	3	4	4	15	2	14	1	5	17	8	7	2	**83**	18
Break & Enter	23	30	5	17	43	1	87	23	18	31	32	17	8	**335**	96
Fraud/False pretence	12	4	4	10	44	2	56	30	24	21	32	13	11	**263**	24
Theft	24	14	23	14	126	6	265	54	36	112	53	21	22	**770**	84
Possession of stolen property	9	4	2	4	13	2	34	4	11	16	5	5	3	**112**	
Property damage/Mischief	8	16	12	4	15	1	24	21	10	34	13	20	10	**188**	9
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	9	0	21	0	0	0	1	0	0	**31**	2
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	
Public order offence	2	1	5	2	9	3	26	1	0	5	5	2	0	**61**	2
Administration of justice	17	0	0	19	0	3	3	6	0	20	26	13	0	**107**	3
Traffic/Import of drugs	7	0	6	3	22	1	59	32	5	8	14	9	1	**167**	
Possession of drugs	7	14	7	6	25	3	29	13	11	16	12	3	3	**149**	57
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	3	8	11	5	4	0	11	3	2	10	6	1	3	**67**	3
Impaired driving	5	10	22	12	27	0	45	13	7	44	26	12	15	**238**	7
Forgery/Uttering	0	4	3	6	3	1	0	2	0	1	4	0	0	**24**	2
Criminal negligence	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	**3**	0
Uttering threats	3	8	17	10	47	1	64	19	19	45	19	13	4	**269**	
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Peace Bond	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**4**	0
Breach of probation/vary Order	16	46	36	41	83	1	137	93	83	219	28	45	18	**846**	
Appeal	3	2	3	0	2	0	7	0	0	1	0	3	2	**23**	23
Other	3	22	10	16	60	2	73	15	21	51	31	11	14	**329**	232
Criminal Adult Total	**198**	**255**	**226**	**244**	**755**	**34**	**1,254**	**442**	**306**	**879**	**417**	**250**	**160**	**5,420**	**1,030**

Number of Full Service Matters Completed
From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Criminal Young Offender															
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**1**	0
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Robbery	1	0	0	1	11	21	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	**40**	13
Sexual assault	3	0	1	1	1	8	0	7	2	6	1	1	5	**36**	12
Sexual abuse	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**2**	
Aggravated assault	1	0	0	4	4	55	0	2	2	5	9	2	3	**87**	
Assault	11	3	6	12	13	31	16	24	17	33	14	9	15	**204**	56
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Arson	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	1	**11**	7
Weapons/Explosives	0	0	1	0	2	8	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	**19**	3
Break & Enter	6	1	2	15	11	44	12	22	21	21	7	7	9	**178**	49
Fraud/False pretence	1	0	0	0	4	5	1	4	0	2	4	0	0	**21**	2
Theft	20	4	10	21	32	97	15	22	19	34	15	11	11	**311**	49
Possession of stolen property	2	0	2	7	2	9	1	7	4	5	1	1	3	**44**	
Property damage/Mischief	6	2	1	7	8	24	3	11	2	15	5	5	6	**95**	6
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	**1**	1
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Public order offence	0	0	1	2	0	23	2	0	0	4	6	0	0	**38**	1
Administration of justice	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	7	1	0	**15**	2
Traffic/Import of drugs	0	0	0	2	2	1	5	7	2	0	2	0	0	**21**	
Possession of drugs	2	0	2	7	2	5	3	6	3	6	6	6	2	**50**	13
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	0	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	**12**	3
Impaired driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	**3**	0
Forgery/Uttering	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	**4**	1
Criminal negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Uttering threats	3	0	0	0	7	24	3	7	9	14	2	4	2	**75**	
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	
Peace Bond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	**1**	0
Breach of probation/vary Order	13	2	18	32	14	52	11	45	44	85	10	18	12	**356**	
Y.O.A. Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	**1**	0
Y.O.A. Review	6	0	0	3	0	8	0	5	10	2	6	0	7	**47**	
Appeal	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	**10**	5
Other	4	5	2	4	6	17	6	4	4	19	2	2	9	**84**	51
Criminal Young Offender Total	**85**	**24**	**46**	**121**	**123**	**440**	**85**	**180**	**144**	**258**	**100**	**72**	**89**	**1,767**	**274**

Number of Full Service Matters Completed
From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Provincial															
Wildlife Act	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Motor Vehicle Act	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**3**	0
Liquor Control Act	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	5	0	0	1	**11**	0
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Other	0	2	0	1	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	**11**	0
Provincial Total	**0**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**7**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**7**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**25**	**0**
Family															
Separation	7	54	13	45	19	43	1	25	49	62	38	17	34	**407**	24
Divorce	6	24	30	31	18	72	1	17	51	46	32	4	15	**347**	46
Custody	42	30	34	13	107	223	1	110	70	69	35	34	46	**814**	284
Children & Family Services	15	22	21	20	32	69	0	11	14	38	17	7	14	**280**	271
Enforcement	0	3	6	5	5	9	0	4	2	8	2	0	3	**47**	16
Application to vary	36	7	26	49	28	56	0	63	64	70	36	2	48	**485**	220
Family maintenance	12	16	46	86	48	92	1	30	65	114	45	12	52	**619**	106
Matrimonial property	1	0	1	0	4	9	0	0	4	6	8	2	1	**36**	13
Access	1	9	10	10	15	47	0	16	22	8	11	8	27	**184**	154
Paternity	0	1	0	1	3	4	0	2	2	1	4	1	2	**21**	10
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	**4**	10
Other	0	7	1	2	3	18	0	3	4	9	6	0	7	**60**	105
Family Total	**120**	**173**	**188**	**262**	**282**	**644**	**4**	**281**	**348**	**432**	**234**	**87**	**249**	**3,304**	**1,259**
Civil															
Litigation	3	0	7	2	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	**21**	3
Non-litigation	1	0	3	1	1	20	5	0	2	4	0	7	3	**47**	0
Admin. Tribunal	9	0	0	0	0	102	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**111**	0
Immigration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Review Board	2	0	1	0	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**19**	
Adult Protection	0	0	3	0	14	6	0	4	5	5	0	0	0	**37**	12
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Other	1	7	7	0	1	5	0	2	5	14	1	5	5	**53**	10
Civil Total	**16**	**7**	**21**	**3**	**31**	**141**	**5**	**6**	**13**	**23**	**1**	**12**	**9**	**288**	**25**
Grand Total	**419**	**462**	**483**	**631**	**1,191**	**1,266**	**1,349**	**910**	**811**	**1,599**	**752**	**421**	**510**	**10,804**	**2,588**

Certificates Completed by Private Lawyers

From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Office	Criminal Adult	Criminal Youth	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Amherst	63	18	0	51	0	**132**	5.1%
Annapolis Royal	3	0	0	25	0	**28**	1.1%
Antigonish	59	30	0	70	0	**159**	6.1%
Bridgewater	31	8	0	75	2	**116**	4.5%
Dartmouth	199	33	0	138	10	**380**	14.7%
Halifax North	23	70	0	166	6	**265**	10.2%
Halifax South	147	13	0	47	0	**207**	8.0%
Kentville	44	1	0	49	0	**94**	3.6%
New Glasgow	61	2	0	113	0	**176**	6.8%
Sydney	231	56	0	325	2	**614**	23.7%
Truro	83	7	0	70	1	**161**	6.2%
Windsor	24	7	0	34	3	**68**	2.6%
Yarmouth	62	29	0	96	1	**188**	7.3%
Total	**1,030**	**274**	**0**	**1,259**	**25**	**2,588**	**100.0%**
Percent	**39.8%**	**10.6%**	**0.0%**	**48.6%**	**1.0%**	**100.0%**	

AFTER HOURS TELEPHONE DUTY COUNSEL APRIL 1, 2001 TO MARCH 31, 2002				
Month	**Criminal Adult**	**Criminal Young Offender**	**Unknown**	**Total**
April	262	28	7	297
May	230	35	8	273
June	219	25	14	258
July	231	47	16	294
August	246	42	38	326
September	209	39	23	271
October	203	39	23	265
November	236	38	14	288
December	251	38	18	307
January	221	46	16	283
February	232	29	9	270
March	271	57	8	336
TOTALS	2,811	463	194	**3,468**

RECIPROCALS

APRIL 1, 2001 TO MARCH 31, 2002

Province	2001/2002			2000/2001		
	Outgoing	Incoming	Total	Outgoing	Incoming	Total
Alberta	11	13	24	16	4	20
British Columbia	10	9	19	9	14	23
Manitoba	2	4	6	2	1	3
New Brunswick	14	5	19	12	4	16
Newfoundland	13	5	18	10	12	22
Northwest Territories	1	1	2	0	0	0
Nunavut	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ontario	50	27	77	32	29	61
Prince Edward Island	4	2	6	4	2	6
Quebec	4	4	8	10	8	18
Saskatchewan	0	4	4	2	3	5
Yukon	0	1	1	0	0	0
Outside Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	**109**	**75**	**184**	**97**	**77**	**174**

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Financial Statements
March 31, 2002

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister of Justice; and

To the Chair and Members of the
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

I have audited the balance sheet of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission as at March 31, 2002, and the statements of revenue and expenses, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at March 31, 2002 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

E R Salmon

E.R. Salmon, FCA
Auditor General

Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 27, 2002

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Year Ended March 31

	2002	2001
Revenue		
Grants – Province of Nova Scotia	$ 12,525,939	$ 11,375,434
Interest	191,803	229,485
Other income	125,523	49,737
	12,843,265	11,654,656
Expenses (Page 12)		
Amortization	138,902	56,670
Capital lease interest	697	2,980
Directors' fees	21,378	40,194
Equipment and maintenance	80,707	85,305
Library	160,907	146,950
Membership, meetings and conferences	202,091	176,972
Office disbursements	253,757	191,077
Private solicitors' fees (Note 6)	2,096,444	1,664,355
Professional and other fees	187,822	126,401
Salaries and benefits	8,758,048	7,361,831
Supplies and services	964,455	909,013
Travel	128,103	268,999
	12,993,311	11,030,747
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses before special cases and unusual items	(150,046)	623,909
Special cases (Note 7)		
Contribution from the Province of Nova Scotia	343,533	281,484
Contributions from clients	15,194	16,530
	358,727	298,014
Expenses, special cases	358,727	298,014
	-	-
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses before unusual items	(150,046)	623,909
Unusual items (Note 16)	227,129	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	$ 77,083	$ 623,909

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Balance Sheet

March 31	2002	2001
Assets		
Current		
Cash	$ -	$ 1,086,062
Investments	3,999,576	2,696,914
Receivables	337,509	295,664
Prepaids	22,620	30,063
	4,359,705	4,108,703
Trust Fund - long service awards (Note 3)	1,425,108	1,163,900
Capital assets (Note 4)	561,799	181,950
	$ 6,346,612	$ 5,454,553
Liabilities		
Current		
Bank indebtedness	$ 321,939	$ -
Payables and accruals (Notes 5 and 6)	1,768,650	1,288,228
Current portion of obligation under capital lease	-	13,065
Deferred contribution – special cases (Note 7)	524,698	468,232
	2,615,287	1,769,525
Long term		
Early retirement incentive program (Note 8)	-	178,372
Long service awards (Note 9)	1,425,108	1,163,900
	1,425,108	1,342,272
Deferred contributions – capital assets (Note 10)	549,180	662,802
	4,589,575	3,774,599
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets	917,604	1,050,102
Net assets invested in capital assets (Page 4)	157,208	95,560
Reserve for future case completion (Page 4 & Note 11)	682,225	534,292
	1,757,037	1,679,954
	$ 6,346,612	$ 5,454,553

Commitment and contingencies (Note 12)

On behalf of the Board

Member Member

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended March 31

	Unrestricted Net Assets	Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	Reserve for Future Case Completion	2002 Total	2001 Total
Balance, beginning of year	$ 1,050,102	$ 95,560	$ 534,292	**$ 1,679,954**	$ 1,056,045
Excess of revenue over expenses	77,083	-	-	**77,083**	623,909
Purchase of capital assets	(86,134)	86,134	-	-	-
Amortization	37,551	(37,551)	-	-	-
Capital lease repayment	(13,065)	13,065	-	-	-
Transfer to reserve for future case completion	(147,933)	-	147,933	-	-
Balance, end of year	$ 917,604	$ 157,208	$ 682,225	**$ 1,757,037**	$ 1,679,954

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31

	2002	2001
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		
Operating		
Excess of revenue over expenses	$ 77,083	$ 623,909
Amortization	138,902	56,670
Amortization of deferred contributions – capital	(113,622)	(30,134)
	102,363	650,445
Change in non-cash operating working capital (Note 14)	446,020	(191,104)
	548,383	459,341
Financing		
Principal repayments of capital lease	(13,065)	(17,122)
(Decrease) increase in early retirement incentive program	(178,372)	4,350
Advances for special cases, net	56,466	265,826
Advances for capital asset purchases	-	400,000
	(134,971)	653,054
Investing		
Increase in investments	(1,302,662)	(144,191)
Purchase of capital assets	(518,751)	(145,082)
	(1,821,413)	(289,273)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(1,408,001)	823,122
Cash and cash equivalents,		
Beginning of year	1,086,062	262,940
End of year	$ (321,939)	$ 1,086,062

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2002

1. Authority

The Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission was established in 1977 pursuant to the Legal Aid Act. The Act and Regulations stipulate that the Commission can provide legal services to persons whose income is derived primarily from municipal or provincial social assistance or to persons in an equivalent position.

Commission activities are funded by a grant from the Province of Nova Scotia. The Province in turn receives a contribution from the Government of Canada for legal aid provided by the Commission.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Revenue
Operating grants are recorded on the accrual basis.

Contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia for the acquisition of capital assets are recorded as deferred contributions and are amortized to revenue in accordance with the amortization schedule for each capital asset acquired.

Capital assets
Capital assets are stated at cost and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives:

Computer equipment	33.33% per year
Furniture and equipment	20% per year
Leasehold improvements	Over term of lease
Equipment under capital lease	33.33% per year

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balances with banks.

Special cases
Periodically, the Commission provides legal services to clients upon special request from the Department of Justice where the clients would not otherwise be eligible under the Commission's guidelines. Contributions and expenses related to these special cases are presented separately on the statement of revenue and expenses.

Investments
Investments consist of banker acceptance notes and are valued at cost, which approximates market value.

3. Trust Fund – long service awards

The Commission follows the provisions of the Civil Service Act with respect to the payment of long service awards to retiring employees. The Commission is responsible for the funding and eventual payment of these awards.

The Commission maintains a trust fund to provide for the eventual payment of awards and to administer long service award advances. The Commission provides contributions, from general operating funds, to defray future obligations for long service awards.

In prior years, employees with 15 years of employment could apply for an advance on their long service award. Advances are repayable upon retirement or termination, together with interest at the provincial borrowing rate which existed at the time of the advance. As at March 31, 2002, six employees have received advances. Advances plus accrued interest at March 31, 2002 totalled $147,237 (2001 - $143,287).

	2002	2001
Balance, beginning of year	$ 1,163,900	$ 1,065,156
Add: Contribution from operating funds	68,842	59,989
Outstanding year end contribution	149,742	-
Interest on long service award advances	7,450	7,818
Interest on investments	35,174	47,669
	261,208	115,476
Less: Long service awards paid to retiring employees	-	16,732
Balance, end of year	$ 1,425,108	$ 1,163,900
Consisting of:		
Cash	$ 79,335	$ 512
Investments and accrued interest on investments	1,048,794	1,020,101
Receivable – long service award advances and accrued interest on advances	147,237	143,287
Contribution due from operating funds	149,742	-
	$ 1,425,108	$ 1,163,900

4. Capital assets

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2002 Net Book Value	2001 Net Book Value
Computer equipment	$ 585,363	$ 172,702	**$ 412,661**	$ 91,108
Furniture and equipment	76,634	255	**76,379**	-
Leasehold improvements	131,058	58,299	**72,759**	78,571
Equipment under capital lease	50,124	50,124	**-**	12,271
	$ 843,179	$ 281,380	**$ 561,799**	$ 181,950

5. Accounts payable and accruals

	2002	2001
Supplies and services	**$ 247,825**	$ 177,328
Accrued private solicitors' fees (Note 6)	**1,136,623**	849,395
Employee salaries and benefits	**384,202**	261,505
	$ 1,768,650	$ 1,288,228

6. Measurement uncertainty

Measurement uncertainty is uncertainty in the determination of the amount at which an item is recognized in the financial statements. This exists when there is a variance between the recorded amount and another reasonable possible amount.

Measurement uncertainty in these financial statements is inherent in the recording of accrued private solicitors' fees. At the end of each fiscal year the Commission has a liability for work conducted by private solicitors that is not yet billed and paid. At March 31, 2002, a liability of $1,136,623 (2001 - $849,395) was recorded, of which $886,436 (2001 - $709,156) was estimated using a system that incorporates average costs and time frames for similar cases over the last two years. The estimate will vary from the eventual billings from private solicitors due to the specific requirements of each case.

7. Deferred contribution - special cases

Special case funding is received from the Province of Nova Scotia and is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending clients. Amounts not used for current expenditures are deferred to be applied against future cases. Any funding not committed at the conclusion of the cases must be returned to the Province of Nova Scotia.

8. Early retirement incentive program

The Commission participated in an Early Retirement Incentive Program offered by the Province of Nova Scotia to crown agencies. A liability in the amount of $191,279 was accrued as of March 31, 2001.

Effective April 1, 2001 the responsibility for this liability was assumed by the Province of Nova Scotia and the elimination recorded as an unusual item.

9. Long service awards

Employees of the Commission are entitled to long service awards upon retirement. The awards are based on the number of years of service of the employee, and are earned at the rate of one week's pay for every year of service, to a maximum of twenty-six weeks.

In 2002, the Commission engaged an outside consultant to estimate the liability relating to the awards. Based on the estimate of the present value of obligation respecting long service awards at March 31, 2002, the long service award trust funds of $1,425,108 (2001 - $1,163,900) are sufficient to fund the liability.

10. Deferred contributions – capital assets

In the 1999 fiscal year the Province of Nova Scotia contributed $353,000 to the Commission to offset anticipated costs of upgrading the Commission's computer systems. A further $400,000 was contributed in the 2001 fiscal year. The changes in the deferred contributions balance for the period are as follows:

	2002	2001
Balance, beginning of year	$ 662,802	$ 292,936
Plus: contributions received	-	400,000
Less: amounts amortized to revenue	(113,622)	(30,134)
Balance, end of year	$ 549,180	$ 662,802

11. Reserve for future case completion

During the 2002 fiscal year, the Commission decided to appropriate an amount from unrestricted net assets that approximates management's best estimate of the remaining cost to complete the cases that are in progress as at March 31, 2002.

12. Commitments and contingencies

a. The Commission has entered into lease agreements for eleven of its offices. The remaining two offices do not have formal lease agreements. Lease agreements typically call for payment of a base rent plus a provision for the Commission's portion of operating costs and property taxes. Lease terms vary by office.

Minimum lease payments for the next five fiscal years, not including operating costs and taxes, are as follows:

2003	$ 538,912
2004	$ 545,976
2005	$ 545,976
2006	$ 435,315
2007	$ 257,034

b. The Commission provides funding to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services. The Commission has agreed to provide a grant of $69,000 to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services for the year ending March 31, 2003.

c. The Commission has been named a defendant in two actions. As of the audit report date, the outcome of these claims is not determinable, and accordingly, no provision has been made for them in the financial statements.

13. Client Trust Funds

On March 31, 2002, $12,902 (2001 - $71,189) was held in trust for clients. These trust funds are accounted for separately and are not reflected in the financial statements.

14. Supplemental cash flow information	2002	2001
Change in non cash operating working capital:		
Receivables	$ (41,845)	$ (220,907)
Prepaids	7,443	8,097
Payables and accruals	480,422	21,706
	$ 446,020	$ (191,104)
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash on hand and balances with banks	$ (321,939)	$ 1,086,062
Interest paid	$ 697	$ 2,980

15. Pensions

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Legal Aid Act, all permanent employees of the Commission are entitled to receive pension benefits under the Province of Nova Scotia Public Service Superannuation Act. The plan is funded by equal employee and employer contributions. The employer contributions are included in the Commission's operating expenses. The Commission is not responsible for any unfunded liability with respect to the superannuation fund.

16. Unusual items

	2002	2001
Recovery of HST	$ 35,850	$ -
Elimination of Early Retirement Incentive Plan liability (Note 8)	191,279	-
	$ 227,129	$ -

17. Comparative figures

Certain of the comparative figures for 2001 have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted for 2002.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Schedule of Expenses
Year Ended March 31, 2002

	Budget	2002 Actual	2001 Actual
Amortization	$ -	$ 138,902	$ 56,670
Capital lease interest	-	697	2,980
Directors' fees	45,000	21,378	40,194
Equipment and maintenance			
Leasehold improvements	26,400	5,168	7,623
Office furniture and equipment	41,000	21,254	29,455
Office machine leasing	48,000	34,057	25,326
Office machine maintenance	41,700	20,228	22,901
	157,100	80,707	85,305
Library	150,000	160,907	146,950
Membership, meetings and conferences			
Membership and dues	140,000	124,223	131,270
Meetings and conferences	60,000	77,868	45,702
	200,000	202,091	176,972
Office disbursements			
Civil and family	100,000	91,798	90,450
Criminal	100,000	155,595	81,102
Young Offender	22,000	6,364	19,525
	222,000	253,757	191,077
Private solicitors' fees			
Civil and family – conflicts	907,515	1,052,746	911,624
Criminal – choice of counsel	170,000	86,082	1,925
Criminal – conflicts	486,786	780,412	606,037
Young offender – choice of counsel	-	8,995	1,146
Young offender – conflicts	145,899	168,209	147,473
	1,710,200	2,096,444	1,664,355
Professional and other fees			
Professional fees	204,200	166,121	126,401
Consultant fees	-	21,701	-
	204,200	187,822	126,401
Salaries and benefits	7,876,000	8,758,048	7,361,831
Supplies and services			
General cleaning and office expense	59,500	65,915	70,854
Heat, light and water	27,000	22,569	25,223
Miscellaneous	1,000	2,594	184
Printing and stationery	80,000	97,239	95,505
Rent, insurance and taxes	605,000	584,184	525,838
Telephone and postage	245,000	191,954	191,409
	1,017,500	964,455	909,013
Travel	285,000	128,103	268,999
	$ 11,867,000	$ 12,993,311	$ 11,030,747

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Advice – Legal counsel provided to people who require only legal advice but no further legal service.

AM – Amherst Office

After Hours Telephone Duty Counsel - After hours legal advice provided on a contract basis by private lawyers.

Applications Pending Decision as to Service – Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year for which a decision has yet to be made.

Applications Received by Method of Service – Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year and how those applications were dealt with.

AR – Annapolis Royal Office

AT – Antigonish Office

BW – Bridgewater Office

Cells Duty Counsel – Legal representation provided by a staff lawyer at the Halifax Provincial Court, Spring Garden Road. This representation is provided to only those individuals detained in cells. The Commission initiated the same service at Dartmouth Provincial Court site, Pleasant Street in February 2001 with a contract lawyer.

Certificate – Contract entered into between the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission and a private lawyer to provide legal representation to clients who qualify for Legal Aid services but cannot be represented by the local Nova Scotia Legal Aid Office due to conflicts of interest. Nova Scotia Legal Aid continues to give individuals charged with offences punishable by mandatory life imprisonment (murder) a choice of defence counsel and this results in Certificates being issued to private lawyers as well.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Dalhousie Legal Aid Service - An organization which receives a significant portion of its funding from the budget of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission. The Dalhousie Legal Aid Service provides services to its clients through staff lawyers with the assistance of Dalhousie Law School students who are supervised by lawyers in the provision of any legal services.

DR - Dartmouth Office

Full Service - Full Service matters are all those matters which require a higher commitment of legal resources than can be serviced as a Summary Service.

Hfx North - Halifax Agricola Street Office

Hfx-South - Halifax Spring Garden Road Office

KE - Kentville Office

NG - New Glasgow Office

Matters Completed - Cases which concluded in the fiscal year.

Private Lawyers - Members of the private Bar representing clients by way of a Nova Scotia Legal Aid Certificate.

Reciprocal - Outgoing - An application for Legal Aid which is forwarded to another province where the Nova Scotia resident requires legal representation. All provinces and territories by agreement participate in this exchange of applications for Legal Aid.

Rejected Applications - Applicants for Nova Scotia Legal Aid who were not provided with service due to financial ineligibility, lack of merit, or the service requested was outside of the scope of service.

Staff Lawyers - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Staff Duty Counsel - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission who provide legal representation, either by telephone or in person, to people detained in the Provincial Court Cells or at a police station. The staff lawyers also, on occasion, provide Duty Counsel services to family or civil clients as the situation may require.

Summary Service - Summary Service matters are those matters which require a lesser commitment of legal resources and are serviced through the following methods: Reciprocal - Outgoing, Staff Duty Counsel, Cells Duty Counsel, Telephone Duty Counsel or Advice.

SY - Sydney Office

TR - Truro Office

WI - Windsor Office

YA - Yarmouth Office